

Tallinn, Estonia

Annual Report on Migration and Citizenship 2020

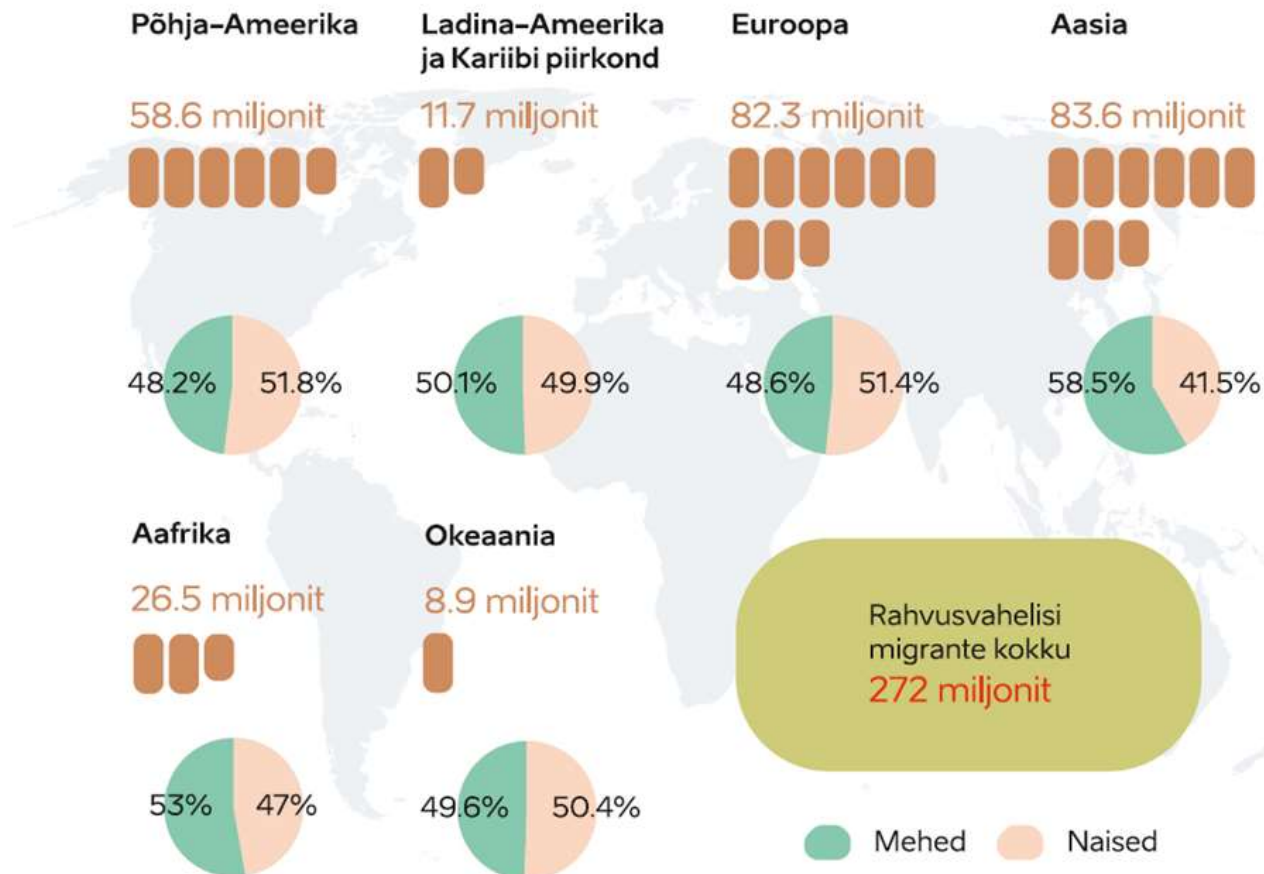
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Estonian Business School

Outline

- Introduction
- Developments in 2019:
 - General trends
 - Legal migration
 - Integration and citizenship
 - International protection
 - Irregular migration and return
- Future challenges
- New EU Pact on Migration and Asylum



Global migration in 2019



Infographic by EMN

Migration in Estonia

- Immigration is increasing and contributes to population growth ...
- ... but fewer Estonians see immigration as a major national concern (Eurobarometer: 12% in 2019, 45% in 2015).

RÄNNE EESTIS, 2015 - 2019



Main developments shaping all aspects of migration

- Political developments in Estonia and Europe more broadly:
 - Parliamentary elections and new administrations: new horizons here, more the same there?
 - Preparation for the next decade and budget periods
- The UK left the EU: uncertainty remains



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LEGAL MIGRATION



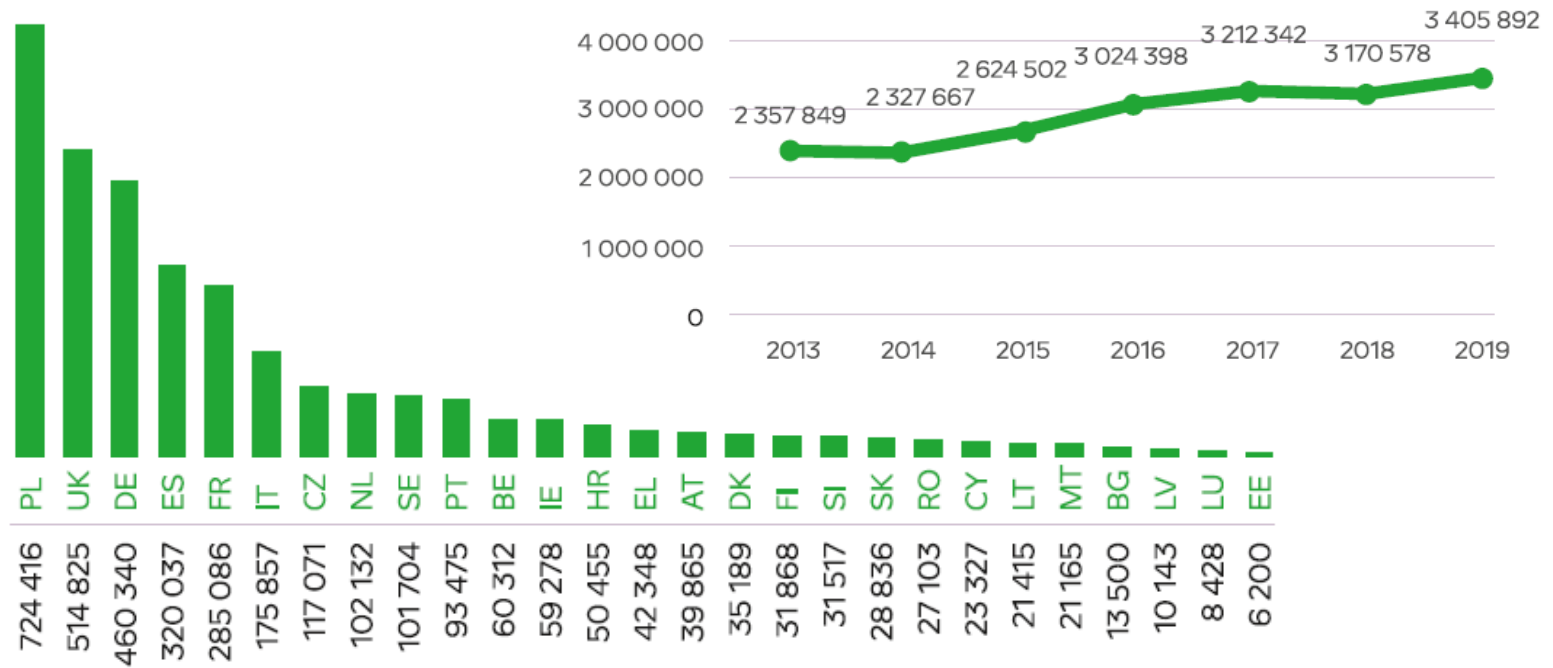
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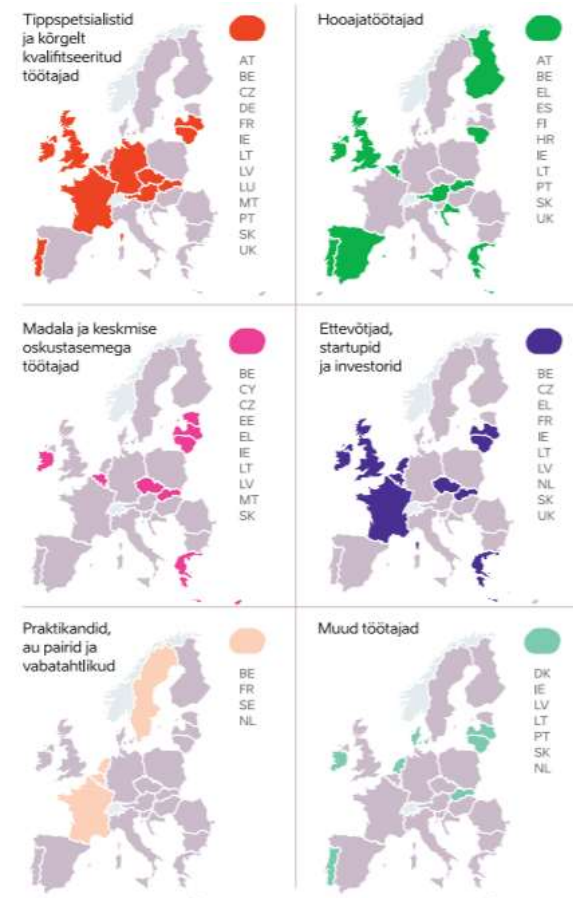
First residence permits in EU-28

EL28 ESMASED ELAMISLOAD, 2013 - 2019



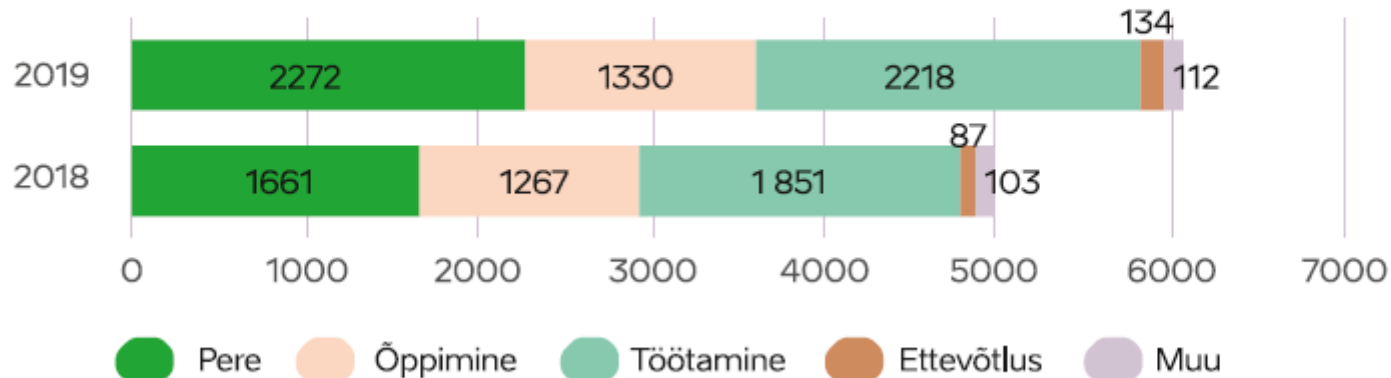
Main developments in the EU

- EU MSs primarily focused on calibrating and modernising labour migration systems to attract all types of foreign workers (not just talents).
- Student migration also a priority in many MSs.
- Family migration is the main entry channel in the EU, but few developments in this area.



First residence permits in Estonia

ESMASED ELAMISLOAD, 2018 - 2019



Ukraina
1930



Venemaa
1236



India
346



Valgevene
284



Nigeeria
232



Main developments in Estonia

- Shift in priorities in Estonia: renewed focus on the securitisation of legal migration pathways and combatting the misuse of these channels.
- However, attracting talents still a priority.
 - The world's first digital nomad visa developed.
- High demand for foreign labour with main labour migration pathway to Estonia being short-term employment (62% increase in 2019).
- Supreme Court of Estonia declares refusal of residence permit to same-sex partners of Estonian citizens unconstitutional.

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INTEGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP

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Main developments in the EU

- 21+ million TCNs living legally in the EU, but 2/3 of all have settled in just 4 countries: Germany, Italy, France and Spain.
- While integration initiatives in EU MSs prioritise socio-economic integration, developments also in other spheres.

Tööturu-
integratsiooni
toetavad
meetmed



Keeleõppe
soodustamine



Juurdepääsu
parandamine
sotsiaal-
süsteemidele

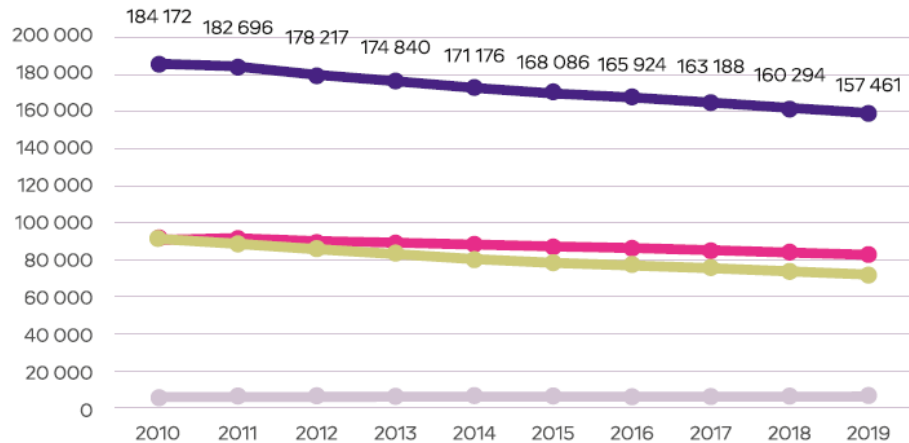


Hariduslik
lõimumine



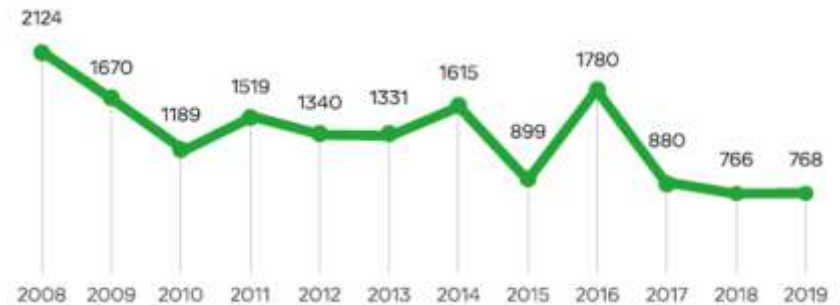
Long-term residence permits and naturalisation in Estonia

EESTIS PIKAAJALISE ELAMISLOA ALUSEL VIIBIJAD



● Pikaajalise elamisloa alusel viibijad ● Venemaa ● Määratlemata kodakondsusega ● Ukraina

NATURALISATSIOON EESTIS 2008 – 2019



Key developments in Estonia

- Many activities to promote naturalisation...
 - In 2019, Estonia began to sign citizenship acquisition agreements to encourage naturalisation and facilitate language learning.
 - Possibilities for the automatic acquisition of citizenship for children of residents with undetermined status expanded.
- ... and support integration.
 - Estonian Language Houses became fully operational in 2019.
 - Tartu Welcome Centre opened its doors.
- New action plans and programmes developed, including Global Estonia



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INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION



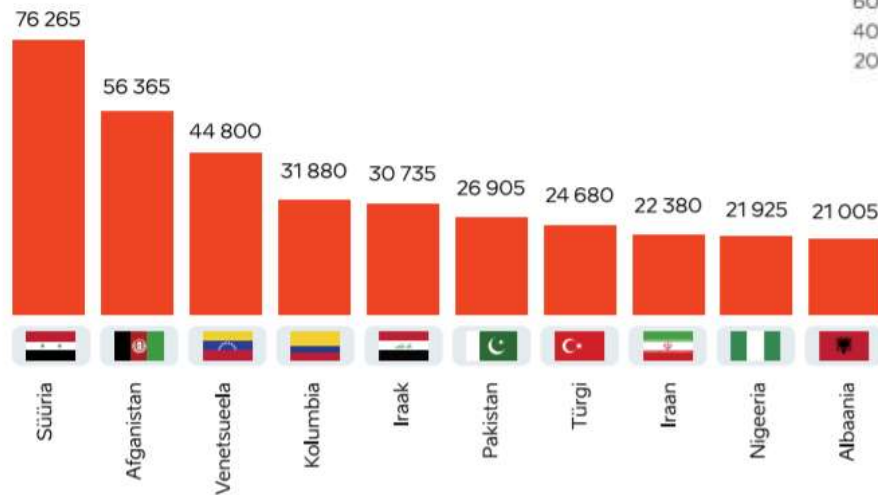
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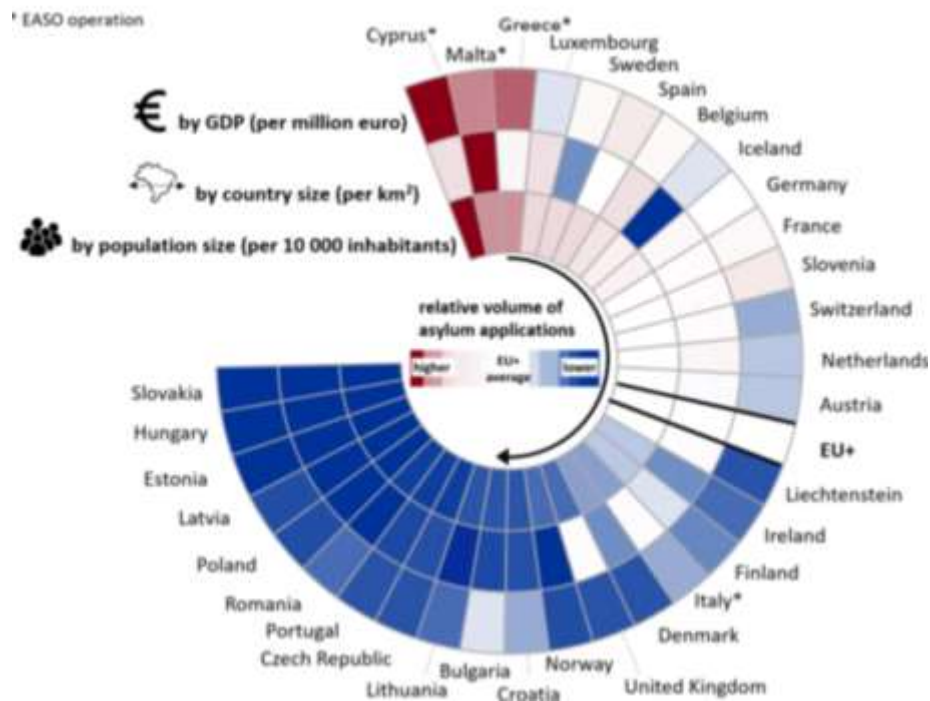
Asylum applications and decisions in the EU

ESMASE RAHVUSVAHELISE KAITSE TAOTLUSED KODAKONDSUSE KAUPA



- Esmase rahvusvahelise kaitse taotluse esitajad
- Kõik rahvusvahelise kaitse taotlejad
- Ebaseaduslikud piiriületused (piiripunktide vahelisel alal)

Relative asylum pressures across MSs (EASO)

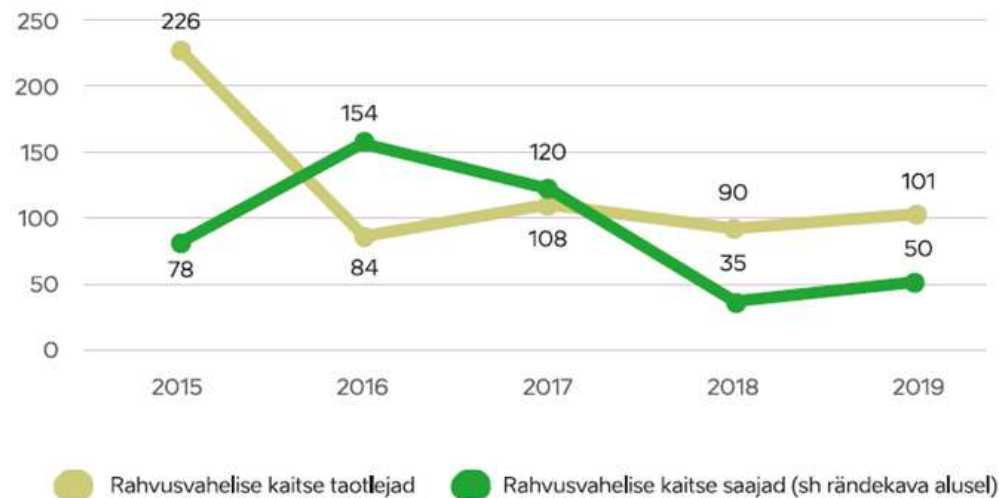


Key developments in the EU

- Remains firmly at the heart of policy discussions at the EU level and a key priority of the new Commission.
- MSs focused on improving the efficiency and quality of national asylum systems, carrying out independent reviews, as well as on adjusting reception and processing capacities in line with fluctuations in asylum applications.
- In 2019 almost 30 000 people were resettled with most transfers occurring in the framework of EU programmes.
- Malta Declaration

Asylum applications and decisions in Estonia

RAHVUSVAHELISE KAITSE TAOTLEJATE
JA SAAJATE ARV EESTIS, 2015 – 2019



Key developments in Estonia

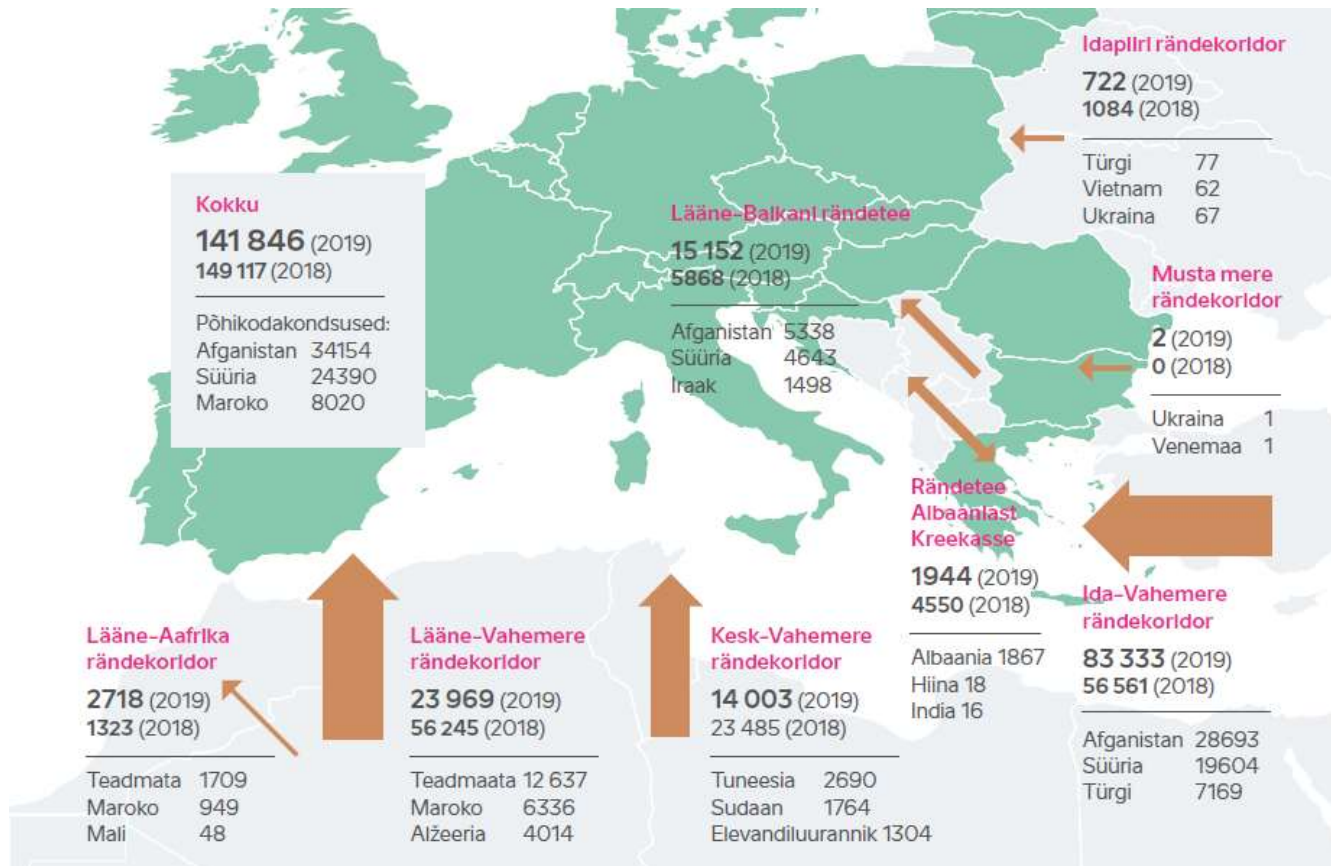
- Estonia has the least international protection applications in the EU. Due to limited migratory pressures, less developments in the field of asylum.
- In 2019, Estonia started to issue 3-in-1 decisions. Together with the negative asylum decision, the person receives a return decision and a decision to impose an entry ban.

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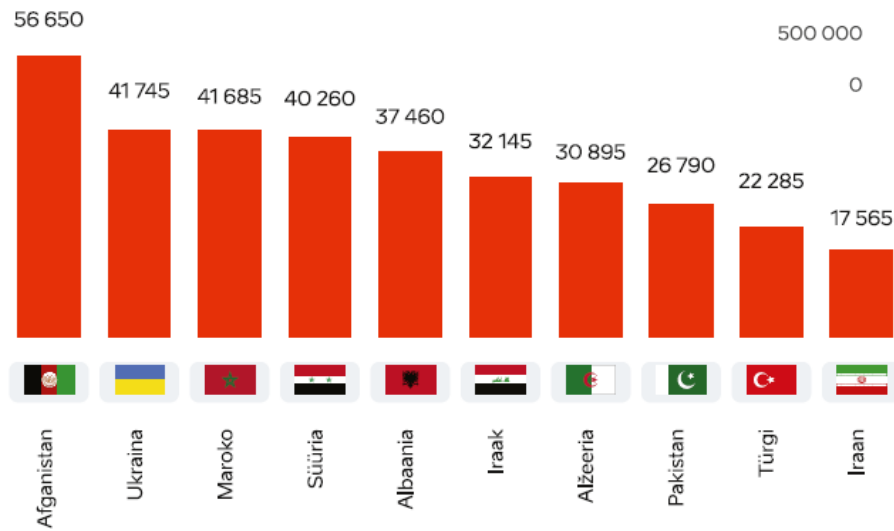
IRREGULAR MIGRATION AND RETURN

Illegal border crossings at EU external borders

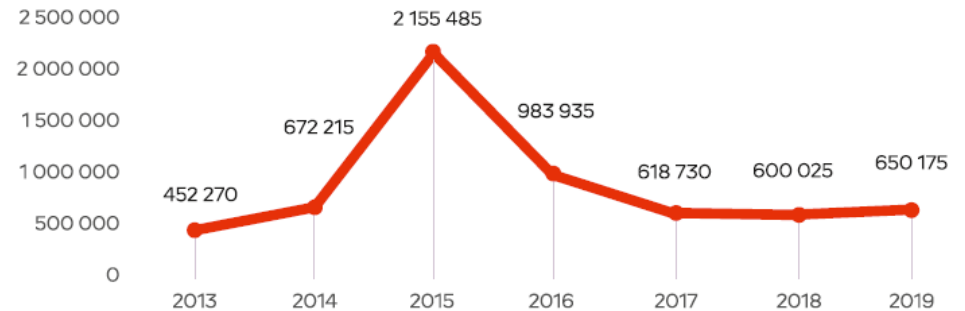


TCNs illegally present in the EU

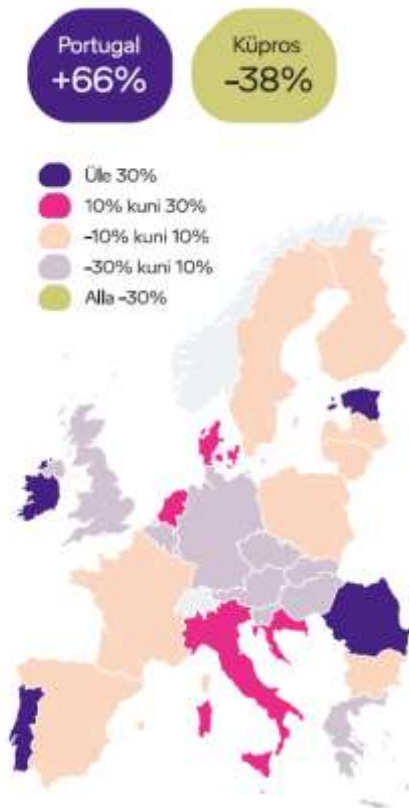
SEADUSLIKU ALUSETA EUROOPAS VIIBIVATE ISIKUTE
PÕHILISED KODAKONDSUSED 2019. AASTAL



SEADUSLIKU ALUSETA EUROOPAS VIIBIVATE KOLMANDATE RIIKIDE
KODANIKE AVASTAMINE, 2013-2019

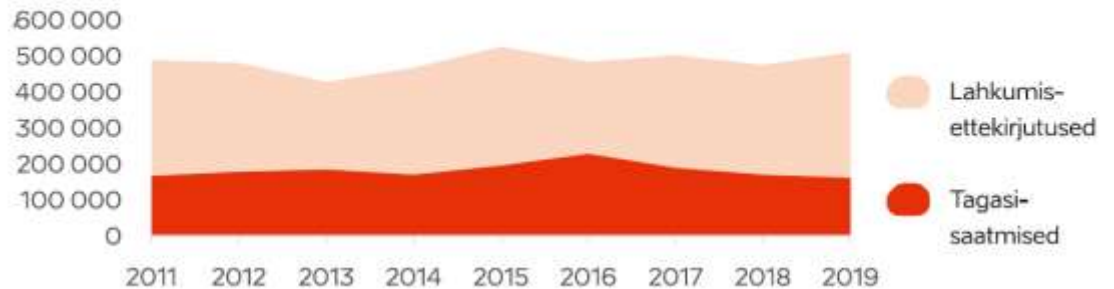


Return in the EU

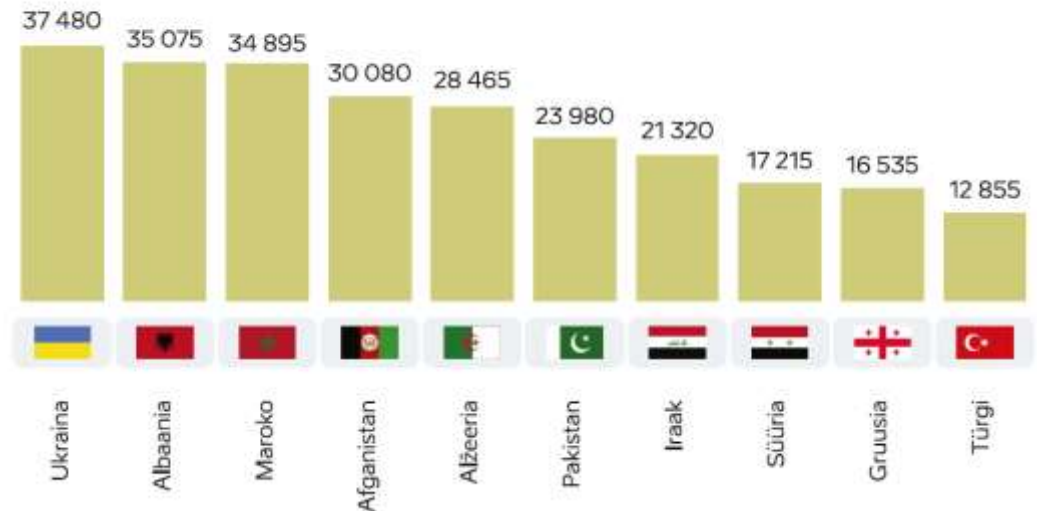


LAHKUMISETTEKIRJUTUSE JÄRGSOLT KOLMANDASSE RIIKI TAGASI SAADETUD KOLMANDATE RIIKIDE KODANIKUD, ERINEVUS 2018.A JA 2019.A VAHEL

LAHKUMISETTEKIRJUTUSED JA TAGASISAATMISED EUROOPAS, 2011 – 2019



LAHKUMISETTEKIRJUTUSED 10 PEAMISE KODAKONDSUSE LÕIKES



Key developments in the EU

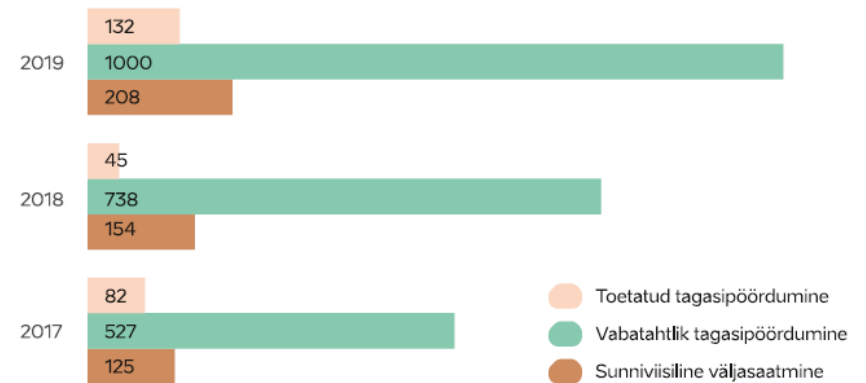
- Member States stepped up efforts to prevent and fight irregular migration and migrant smuggling, including running awareness campaigns and capacity building activities.
- MSs streamlined return procedures, worked on preventing absconding, carried out awareness campaigns and capacity building activities in third countries and took steps to combat the misuse of legal migration pathways.
- Detention remains a heated topic with contrasting approaches in MSs.
- Frontex strengthened mandate came into force, paving the way for the creation of Europe's first uniformed service.
- EU adopted regulations to enhance interoperability between EU information systems in the area of justice and home affairs.

Irregular migration and return in Estonia

EBASEADUSLIK RIIGIS VIIBIMINE, LAHKUMISETTEKIRJUTUSED
JA TAGASI SAATMISED EESTIS, 2011 - 2019



TAGASISAATMINE EESTIST, 2017 - 2019



Key developments in Estonia

- Focus was on combatting the misuse of legal migratory pathways and illegal employment. The action plan for prevention and obstruction of illegal employment was updated and amendments proposed to the Aliens Act, the Income Tax Act and the Taxation Act to prevent disregard for employment rules in Estonia.
- In 2019, a new amendment to the Code of Criminal Procedure and Obligation to Leave and Prohibition on Entry Act came into force, enabling to sign an agreement with a sentenced third-country national for their return.
- The PBGB's HotSpot 2019 exercise to rehearse mass intake of refugees.



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FUTURE CHALLENGES



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COVID-19 and its aftermath

- Risk plans and reforms needed to manage better sudden fluctuations in the demand and supply of labour, especially in sectors dependent on foreign workers.
- New considerations for migration regulation (health)?



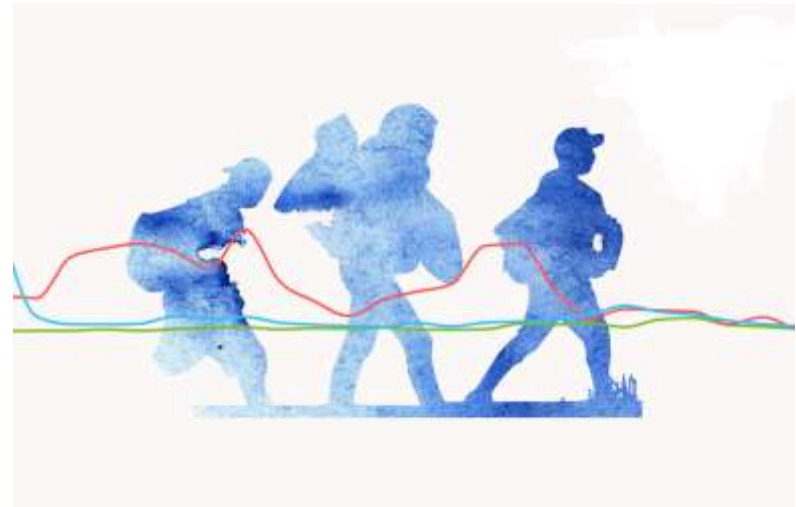
Europe losing ground in talent war

- New players are entering the war for talent, including China, Japan, South Korea, but also countries like South Africa and Rwanda.
- The economic growth potential of these countries and the affinity for intra-regional migration make them more competitive.



Tensions growing in the surrounding regions

- Migratory pressures may increase due to political and economic tensions in the Middle East and Africa.
- The 2020 Belarusian crisis may affect our immediate region.



Urgent reform of the CEAS is needed

- The situation in hotspots and refugee camps is hopeless and is reaching its tipping point due to the COVID-19 outbreak.
- Frontex has flagged multiple instances of attempts by migrants to organise to challenge border regimes.



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New Pact on Migration and Asylum



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The New Pact:

Building confidence: new balance between
responsibility and solidarity



Stronger trust fostered by better
and more effective procedures



Well-managed Schengen
and external borders



Effective solidarity



Skills and talent



Deepening international
partnerships



Flexibility
and resilience

The package of 9 instruments published in September:

- A new Screening Regulation
- An amended proposal revising the Asylum Procedures Regulation
- An amended proposal revising the Eurodac Regulation
- A new Asylum and Migration Management Regulation
- A new Crisis and Force Majeure Regulation
- A new Migration Preparedness and Crisis Blueprint
- A new Recommendation on Resettlement and complementary pathways
- A new Recommendation on Search and Rescue operations by private vessels
- New Guidance on the Facilitators Directive

A new mechanism for solidarity

- Flexible options for Member State contribution:
 - Relocation of recently-arrived persons
 - Return sponsorship, whereby a MS takes over responsibility for returning a person with no right to stay on behalf of another Member State
 - Operational support and assistance



Tailored solidarity responses for specific scenarios:

- **Member States with many arrivals:**
 - **Trigger**
 - **Assessment** what other MSs need to do
 - **Pledging** based on 'fair share' (calculated based on GDP and population size) and MS may choose between flexible options
 - If needed, **Correction**. If the pledges received fall more than 30% short of the total number of relocations or sponsored returns necessary, then Member States that didn't pledge are requested to cover at least half of their 'fair share'.
 - **Legal confirmation**
- **Relocation for people rescued at the sea and vulnerable groups:**
 - Commission to set up a pool of pledges by Member States based on annual projection of needs
 - If not enough pledges (30% shortfall), Commission will convene Solidarity Forum, adopt a legal act or apply correction.

Effective crisis response



Operational support available on request of a Member State

Building on **experience gained** since 2015
and **on civil protection** tools



Solidarity mechanism

Relocation and return sponsorships operating
faster and covering **more categories** of
people



Recognition of practical difficulties

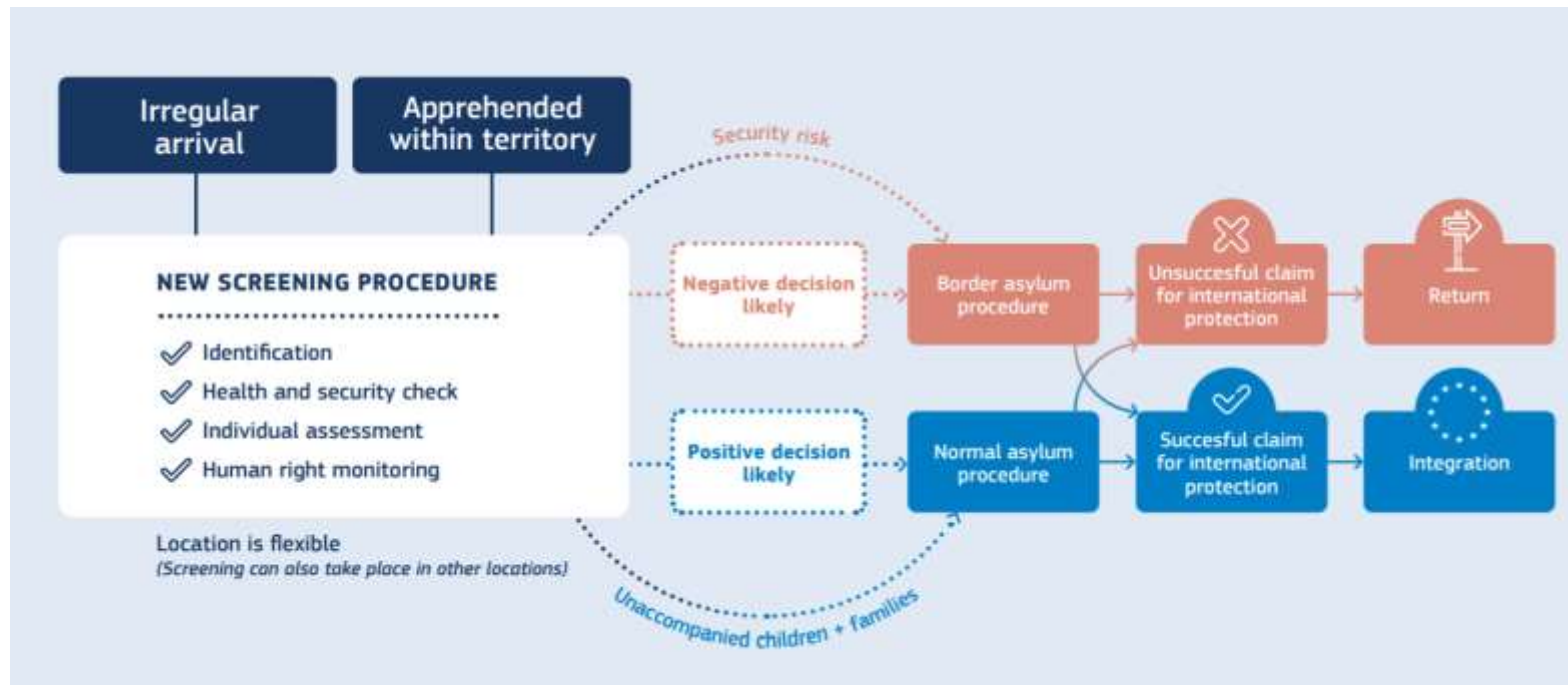
Precise derogations from normal
timelines in **full respect** of fundamental
rights



Quick clarity for people needing protection

New **immediate protection** status for
people fleeing armed conflicts in crisis

New screening for anyone arriving irregularly



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Thank you!

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